

Order Number CA-060-2013-01  
Fire Prevention Orders  
Bureau of Land Management  
California Desert District

It is the policy of the Bureau of Land Management to take all necessary actions to protect human life, the public lands and resources and improvements thereon through the prevention of wildfires. Wherever possible, the Bureau of Land Management will comply with 43 CFR 9212.2 requiring the BLM to establish fire prevention orders to assist with wildland fire prevention efforts throughout the geographical area. This geographical area consists of public lands within the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) and public lands outside the CDCA in Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside and San Diego Counties.

Under the authority of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et. Seq.) and pursuant to 43 CFR 9212.2, the following fire prevention orders are issued:

**Year-round Fire Restrictions**

These restrictions shall apply to all public lands within the California Desert District regardless of stage restrictions and are applicable year round. These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions in Title 43 CFR 9212.1. They include:

**Fireworks, Ammunition and Targets**

Prohibited acts:

1. The possession or use of all fireworks, including “safe and sane”, on all public lands of the California Desert District.
2. The possession or use of any steel jacketed, steel core or armor-piercing ammunition of any caliber. This would include handgun, rifle and shotgun ammunition.
3. The possession or use of any tracer and/or incendiary ammunition of any caliber.
4. The possession or use of any explosive or incendiary device, including chemical devices.
5. The possession or use of any pyrotechnic device not listed under 2-4 above. This includes, but is not limited to, such devices as exploding targets that are detonated when struck by a projectile such as a bullet from a firearm.
6. The use Chinese Lanterns, Floating Sky Lanterns, Fire Balloons, Acetylene Balloons, or any similar device.

***Pyrotechnic device:*** Means any device manufactured or used to produce a visible or audible effect by combustion, deflagration, or detonation.

***Explosive, chemical, or incendiary device:*** Includes, but is not limited, to an incendiary bomb, grenade, fire bomb, chemical bomb, or similar device, which consists of or includes a breakable or non-breakable container including a flammable liquid or compound, or any breakable container which consists of, or includes a chemical mixture that explodes with fire or force and can be carried, thrown, placed, or shot with a firearm.

***Chinese Lantern:*** A decorative collapsible lantern of thin, brightly colored paper, that once a heat source is ignited, is intended to slowly float away like a hot air balloon.

***Steel Jacketed:*** Having a steel ferrous jacket over a non-ferrous soft metal core of the bullet

***Steel Core:*** The core or center of the bullet is steel or other ferrous metal composition.

***Tracer:*** A bullet that contains a chemical tracer and leaves a path of light, smoke or fire.

**Burning**

No person shall burn, ignite or cause to burn any tire, petroleum product, wires, magnesium, waste or any other hazardous or explosive materials.

## **Spark Arresters**

All off-road vehicles being operated on public lands must be equipped with a properly installed spark arrester pursuant to 43 CFR 8343.1(c) and California Vehicle Code 38366(a). The spark arrester must meet either the U.S. Department of Agriculture-Forest Service standard 5100-1a or the 80% efficiency level standard determined by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAEs) recommended practices J335 or J350.

## **Permits**

It is prohibited to violate California Public Resources Code 4433 which states “A person shall not light, maintain, or use a campfire upon any brush-covered land, grass-covered land, or forest-covered land which is the property of another person unless he first obtains a written permit from the owner, lessee, or agent of the owner or lessee of the property. If, however, campsites and special areas have been established by the property owner and posted as areas for camping, a permit is not necessary.” (See Seasonal Fire Restrictions for specific permit requirements). Campfire permits may be obtained at all BLM Offices, Fire and Ranger Stations and from patrol personnel.

## **Seasonal Fire Restrictions**

- A. End of fire season (generally October but may be extended due to extreme fire danger) to May 15 – generally, campfires and barbecues are allowed on all public lands of the California Desert District without a permit subject to proper clearance of flammable fuels to a minimum of five feet and having shovel or extinguishing tools readily available.
- B. May 15 to end of fire season (generally October but may be extended due to extreme fire danger) – All public lands within the California Desert Conservation Area will be considered to be in Stage I restrictions (see ‘C’ below). Some areas that may be experiencing extreme fire danger may be placed in Stage II or Stage III restrictions.
- C. Stage restriction definitions:
  - 1. Stage I Restriction – Campfires, barbecues and gas stoves are allowed with a permit. All public lands within the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) shall be in Stage I restrictions. Please check with local field offices for further information on restrictions
  - 2. Stage II Restriction – Setting, building, maintaining, attending, or using open fire of any kind, except campfires within approved fire pits and grills provided for in developed recreation sites, is prohibited. Controlled flame devices such as portable stoves fueled by petroleum or LPG products are allowed by permit.
  - 3. Stage III – Setting, building, maintaining, attending, or using open fire of any kind is prohibited throughout the California Desert District. Controlled flame devices such as portable stoves fueled by petroleum or LPG products are allowed only by permit. Smoking is only permitted within enclosed vehicles or camp trailers.

Stage 1 areas may be elevated to Stage II or Stage III during periods of extreme fire danger.

NOTE: All public lands within Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside, San Diego and Imperial Counties designated as “Direct Protection Areas” with fire suppression provided by CAL FIRE shall be in Stage II Fire Restriction.

Title 43 CFR 9212.4 provides that any person who knowingly and willfully violates the regulations of 9212.1 of this title shall upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not more than \$1000 or to imprisonment of not more than 12 months or both.

These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions in Title 43 CFR 9212.1

Prepared in Riverside, California this 19th day of June, 2013

Attachment:

CDD Fire Restriction Map

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Teresa A. Raml  
District Manager  
California Desert District

